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FACILITIES PROTECTION UNIT DIRECTOR

Georgia Public Service Commission

(404) 463-6526
(800) 282-5813

244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334-5701

FAX: (404) 463-6532
psc.ga.gov

DOCKET # 37090
DOCUMENT # 192879

Docket No. 37090

City of Thomson Gas System
210 Railroad Street
Thomson, GA 30824

REF: Construction Inspection # DJ22-052

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Mr. Kenneth Usry

On October 31, 2022, a representative of the Georgia Public Service Commission Pipeline/Facilities Safety Office conducted an inspection of your gas system. The enclosed inspection report numbered DJ22-052 is provided for your information and file.

In conjunction with this inspection report, Staff has recommended the following enforcement(s):

Enforcement Action:

- ☐ Notice of Probable Violation
- ☐ Notice of Probable Violation with Proposed Civil Penalty
- ☐ Notice of Amendment

Enforcement Letter:

- ☐ Warning Letter
- ☐ Letter of Concern

Enforcement Notification:

- ☐ Observed Issue
- ☒ No Violation

Please review and respond to this report in accordance with the attached Instructions for Responding to Enforcement Actions, Enforcement Letters, and Notifications Issued by the Georgia Public Service Commission. Please refer to Docket No. 37090 in your response.

Please let me know if there are any questions concerning this report at (404) 985-4271 or mthebert@psc.ga.gov. Thank you for your continuing contribution toward increased pipeline safety.

Sincerely,

Michelle Thebert

Michelle L. Thebert
Director, Office of Pipeline Safety/Facilities Protection

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REPORT OF NATURAL GAS SAFETY

INSPECTION NO: DJ22-052

OPERATOR: City of Thomson Gas System

INVESTIGATOR: Daphne Jones

INSPECTION DATE: October 31, 2022 REPORT MAILED DATE: January 23, 2023

Any questions concerning this report may be directed to the above address or by telephoning (404) 463-6526.

1. PURPOSE OF INSPECTION

To conduct an inspection of the Operators construction project for compliance with the minimum federal standards in 49CFR Part 192.

2. CONTINUING VIOLATIONS

Violation	Description	Inspection#	Date
192.195(a)	General requirements. Except as provided in §192.197, each pipeline that is connected to a gas...	JS17-013	5/8/2017
192.473(a)	Each operator whose pipeline system is subjected to stray currents shall have in effect a...	JS17-013	5/8/2017
192.473(b)	Each impressed current type cathodic protection system or galvanic anode system must be designed...	JS17-013	5/8/2017
Under Consent Agreement	Operator is under a Consent Agreement.	AT20-002	1/8/2020
192.616	Public education.	JH20-010	2/24/2020
192.1007(f)	Periodic Evaluation and Improvement.	JS22-007	3/22/2022

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

From October 31, 2022, through December 14, 2022, on various days, Staff reported to 4399 GA-17 in Wrens, Ga. to conduct an inspection of the City of Thomson construction project for compliance with the minimum federal standards in 49CFR Part 192 and Protocol 9 inspections for compliance with the minimum federal safety standards.

During this inspection the Operator was represented by:
Rodney Dunaway – Gas Director, City of Thomson
David Hubbard – Crew Forman, D Lance Souther Const.
Neal Creswell – Welder, D Lance Souther Const.
Danny Creswell – Crew Forman/Welder, D Lance Souther Const.
John Clements – Welder, D Lance Souther Const.
Robert Cornelius - Technician, D Lance Souther Const.
Chris Cawley – MGAG / SRCS Consultant

Commission Staff was represented by:
Daphne Jones – Lead Inspector
Daniel Clemmons – Pipeline Safety Inspector
Alan Towe – Pipeline Safety Inspector

At the time of this inspection, the City of Thomson was under five existing probable violations. Due to this being a construction inspection and because all inspections were conducted at the field site, Staff elected not to review the probable violations at this time.

NO VIOLATIONS FOUND

During this inspection, Staff met with the City of Thomson Gas Director, Rodney Dunaway, and D Lance Souther Construction Company, at project site location 4399 GA-17, Wrens, GA. D Lance Souther construction crews were installing an 8-inch steel for a new Meter Station project. Staff conducted inspection of construction materials, components, construction maps, and construction methods. Staff conducted OQ protocol 9 inspection on the contractor personnel as well.

During this inspection Staff reviewed the new construction project specifications for the meter station. Staff reviewed the materials being used, welding procedures, coating procedures for the pipe, and qualification records along with a qualification field inspection on personnel performing construction tasks. Construction was installed by open ditch excavation and some boring. Butt- welding was performed by qualified welders.

During the field evaluations, Staff observed the contractor (D Lance Souther) personnel Neal Creswell, Danny Creswell, and John Clements perform Task#0801-0811 (Welding and Visual Inspection of Welding and Welds). Staff observed Robert Cornelius performing wrapping of welds Task #1011 (External Coating Application & Repair). Staff verified that personnel had access to the procedures and performed by adhering to the requirements of the City of Thomson's Operations and Maintenance manual. Staff also conducted a review of the surrounding area indicated the existing utilities had been located and marked in the construction area.

As a result of this inspection Staff noted no probable violations of the minimum federal safety standards.

Please review and respond to this report in accordance with the attached Instructions for Responding to Enforcement Letters Issued by the Georgia Public Service Commission.

BEFORE THE GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	
No Violation Report	)	**DOCKET NO. 37090**
City of Thomson Gas System	)	
Inspection DJ22-052 on October 31, 2022	)	
	)	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I have caused to be served a copy of the foregoing, and a copy of same was served upon all parties and persons listed below via electronic mail as indicated by an asterisk. I further certify that the *City of Thomson Gas System* was served a hard copy of the above-stated document by U.S. Mail, certified/return receipt requested.

*Sallie Tanner, Executive Secretary
Georgia Public Service Commission
244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

*The Honorable Kenneth Usry, Mayor
City of Thomson Gas System
210 Railroad Street
Thomson, GA 30824
kenneth.usry@thompson.mcduffie.net

*Michelle Thebert, Facilities Protection Unit Director
Georgia Public Service Commission
244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

Respectfully Submitted this 26th day of January 2023:

Cathy Nesbitt, Administrative Assistant
Georgia Public Service Commission
Facilities Protection Unit
244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334